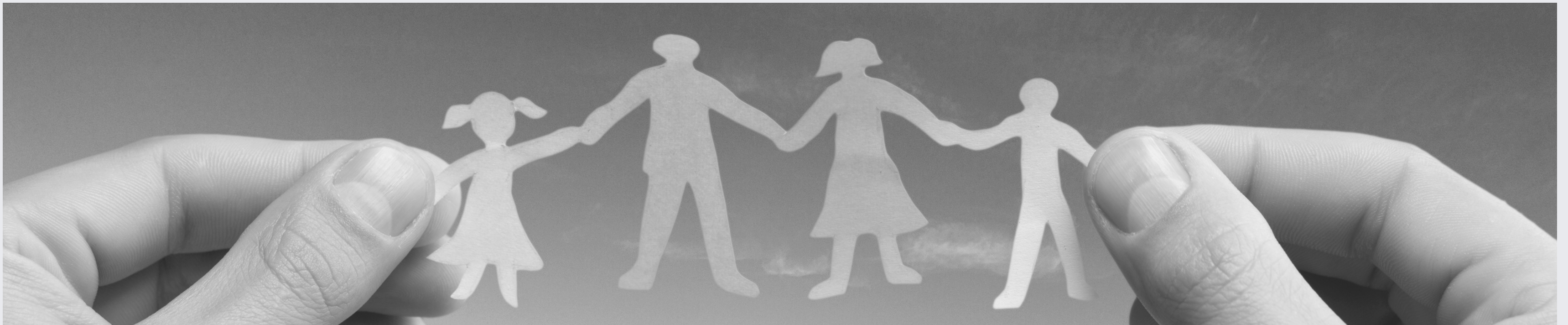


CALIFORNIA'S BATTERER INTERVENTION PROGRAMS



SECTION 01: BACKGROUND





**Beyond the Crisis: A Long-Term
Approach to Reduce, Prevent, and
Recover from Intimate Partner Violence**

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Milton Marks Commission on California State
Government Organization and Economy

www.lhc.ca.gov

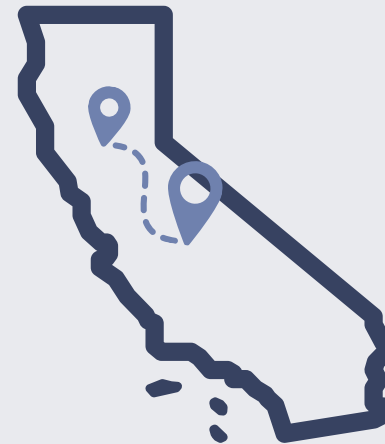
BEYOND THE CRISIS: A LONG-TERM APPROACH TO REDUCE, PREVENT, AND RECOVER FROM INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Californians convicted of domestic violence must participate in a batterer intervention program as a condition of their probation.

RIGID ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT:



**AVAILABILITY OF
GROUP SESSIONS**



**GEOGRAPHIC
DISTANCE**



**PARTICIPANTS'
WORK SCHEDULES**

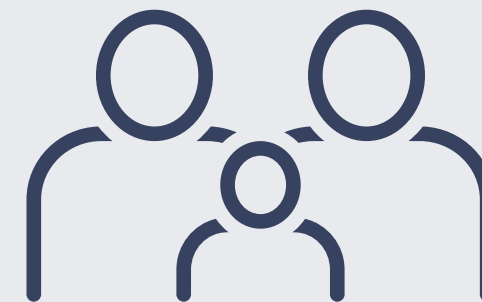
THE PROGRAM FEE PRESENTS ANOTHER PROBLEM FOR PARTICIPANTS



No taxpayer money goes to batterer intervention programs.

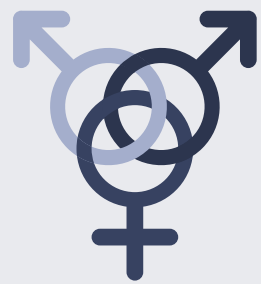


Participants pay for the program themselves based on an income-based sliding scale.

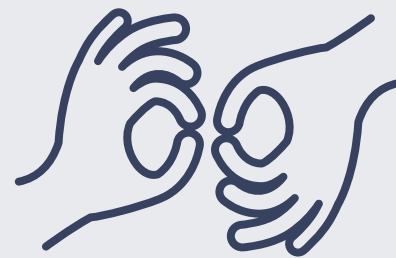


The cost for classes puts a strain on low-income families.

THE FORMAT OF BATTERER INTERVENTION PROGRAMS IS NOT INCLUSIVE



Requiring participants to attend same-gender classes ignores the fact that some perpetrators of intimate partner violence are in same-sex relationships.



Are difficult to find for those who communicate via American Sign Language or that don't speak English.



The emphasis on using writing as a form of accountability ignores the fact the California ties with Texas and Mississippi for the second worst literacy rates in the nation.

THE ONE-SIZE-FITS ALL APPROACH CAN FAIL TO ADDRESS:



**PARTICIPANTS' OWN
TRAUMA AND HIGH
ADVERSE CHILDHOOD
EXPERIENCE SCORES**



**PARTICIPANTS' UNMET
BASIC NEEDS, SUCH
AS SHELTER**



**A LACK OF INCENTIVE
FOR PEOPLE TO SEEK
HELP BEFORE THEY
HARM THEIR PARTNER**

SECTION 02:

HOW CAN WE FIX THIS?



BATTERER INTERVENTION PROGRAMS ARE NOT INHERENTLY BAD

The problem is that the statute and system of these intervention programs are structured in such a way that it's nearly down to chance whether the program will work for a participant or leave them indebted in the county lockup.



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS



The state should review its batter intervention programs to evaluate whether they facilitate rehabilitation.



The state should begin a process to determine how to create a suite of services that can be tailored to the specific rehabilitative needs of an individual.



The state must ensure that all offenders can access rehabilitative services, regardless of ability to pay.



THANK YOU!

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